

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 141

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Darlene Baxter for meritorious service to the citizens of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such estimable person is Darlene Baxter who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of the Columbia community, Darlene Baxter is Vice President of Affiliate Services for Maury Regional Hospital in which capacity she supervises management personnel, training, budget, strategic planning, and oversight of overall daily operations for departments designated by the Chief Executive Officer; she is also the Executive Director of the Maury Regional Healthcare Foundation in which her duties include organizing the first Foundation for the hospital, establishing administrative processes, and fundraising activities; and

WHEREAS, she also lends her business talents to the Tennessee Hospital Association, where she is greatly admired for her professionalism; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baxter received her business degree from Martin Methodist College in 1966, and a Bachelor's in Office Management from Western Kentucky University in 1968; she later received her Master's in Health Care Administration from the College of St. Francis in Illinois, in 1992; and

WHEREAS, proving an entrepreneurial acumen, Darlene Baxter started her own business in 1978, The Linen Cottage, in Columbia, and diligently ran it for sixteen years; prior to that, she worked as an Assistant Personnel Manager for State Farm Insurance in Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her many professional achievements, Ms. Baxter also possesses a deep and abiding appreciation for her community; she is a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Maury Alliance Board of Directors, the Maury County Chamber of Commerce in which she serves on the Board of Directors and as chairperson of the committee that initiated the monthly Chamber of Commerce Coffees and the Fourth of July Celebration in Maury County Park; and

WHEREAS, she is also a devoted member of the Maury County Chapter Board of the American Red Cross in which she serves as chairperson of various committees, the Maury County Chapter of the American Cancer Society in which she serves as past president and chairperson of various committees, and the Columbia State Foundation Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baxter is a devout member of Riverside United Methodist Church and serves on a number of committees as well as past board chairperson; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Baxter's remarkable success as a public servant and civic leader is directly attributable to her reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and her uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Darlene Baxter is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Darlene Baxter for her meritorious service to her community and to the State of Tennessee and extend to her our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.